

REMEDATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR July 30, 2003

STATE BUDGET IS SIGNED

Governor Jim Doyle signed the state budget for fiscal years 2004 and 2005 into law on July 24th. Included among his vetoes was transfer of 1.3 million dollars out of Wisconsin's Environmental Fund, as had been directed by the Legislature. The governor's veto impacts one of the items that we have previously noted could produce a significant reduction in state-funded staff, an estimated 10 full time employees (FTE) in the RR program and 4 FTE in the Waste Management Program. While the funds were not transferred, DNR does not presently have authority to use the vetoed funds for staff salaries. The second reduction to RR Program staffing, 9.5 FTE, was not vetoed and stems from the Legislature's decision not to increase the vehicle impact fee. The vehicle impact fee is a segregated fee collected at the time of vehicle title transfers that is a primary funding mechanism for staff in the RR Program. This second reduction takes effect July 1, 2004. The RR Program has already eliminated 7 FTEs, mostly through attrition, in response to the budget adjustment bill for fiscal year 2003.

BROWNFIELD GRANT FUNDING INCLUDED IN BUDGET

The new state budget includes continued funding for Wisconsin brownfield grant programs. The budget bill (2003 Wisconsin Act 33) includes \$1.7 million per year for DNR's Brownfields Site Assessment Grant (SAG) program, and \$1 million in the biennium for DNR's Brownfields Green Space and Public Facilities Grant program. We expect to announce the next round of applications for SAG grants this winter. For Green Space grants, the budget authorizes DNR to review the grant applications that we received in January of 2003. DNR is analyzing the budget language to determine how it will impact future Green Space grant awards. The budget bill also includes \$7 million annually for the Wisconsin Brownfields Grant Program administered by the Department of Commerce. More information about these grant programs is available on the RR web site at: www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/financial

FOX RIVER & GREEN BAY RECORD OF DECISION (ROD)

DNR and the EPA have completed the second of two records of decision (RODs) for cleaning up PCB contaminated sediments in the Lower Fox River and Green Bay. PCB's were discharged into the Fox River during manufacturing and recycling of carbonless copy paper. The second ROD provides for removal of 60,670 pounds of PCBs through dredging of over six million cubic yards of contaminated sediments, as well as some removal of additional sediment in the area covered by the first ROD. Contaminated sediments will be pumped through a pipeline, allowed to settle out, and are planned to be disposed of in a licensed landfill, the location of which has not been selected. The cost estimate for the remedial action is \$284 million for operable units 3 and 4, the last 13 miles of the river, and \$39.6 million for operable unit 5, the bay of Green Bay. The plan for Green Bay uses monitored natural recovery to evaluate degradation, dispersion, and burial of contaminants, and includes long term monitoring of PCB levels in water, sediment, and fish tissues. Information gained as the cleanup progresses could lead to modifications of the remedy, and the public will be informed of any changes to the clean up plan. For more information, including the ROD and the locations of printed copies, please see <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/lowerfox/whatsnew.html>

MORE ABOUT REVISIONS TO CHAPTER NR 140

Public hearings have been completed for proposed amendments to ch. NR 140, Wis. Adm. Code, Groundwater Quality. These amendments would revise existing groundwater quality standards for butylate, dacthal and naphthalene, and establish new standards for molybdenum and alachlor ESA, a breakdown product of the pesticide alachlor. Completion of the rule amendment is pending submittal of results of a recently completed alachlor toxicological study by Monsanto, the manufacturer of alachlor. For more information, please contact Bill Phelps, DNR, at William.Phelps@dnr.state.wi.us, or at 608-267-7619.

DNR is also proposing amendments to ch. NR 140 to reduce allowable levels of arsenic. Arsenic is a known human carcinogen, and the federal drinking water maximum contaminant level for this substance has been reduced from 50 micrograms per liter to 10. DNR has proposed a parallel change to the arsenic enforcement standard in NR 140, and reduction of the arsenic preventive action limit from 5 micrograms per liter to one. The Natural Resources Board has authorized public hearings for these changes on August 12 and 13, 2003. For hearing dates and locations, please see <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/news/hearmeet.html>. For more information, please contact William Phelps at 608-267-7619, or at William.Phelps@dnr.state.wi.us.

SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN GROUNDWATER STANDARDS

DNR's Drinking Water & Groundwater Program has created a table listing NR 140 groundwater quality standards, NR 809 state drinking water standards, and health advisory levels for substances in water. Links in this table allow users to find additional toxicological and health related information on many of the substances. The table of regulatory standards and advisory levels is accessible through the DNR's Drinking Water & Groundwater program web page at <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/dwg/health/hal.htm>. For more information about the Drinking and Groundwater Program, please visit their main page at <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/dwg/>.

REGISTER NOW FOR BROWNFIELDS 2003

Brownfields 2003: Growing a Greener America, will be October 27 through 29 in Portland, Oregon. This national conference addresses redevelopment of rural and urban industrial and commercial sites that are abandoned or underused because of real or perceived contamination. Brownfields 2003 builds on previous conferences and offers up-to-date information for brownfields practitioners such as bankers, planners, developers, government officials, community representatives and others. The conference offers a variety of formats including the popular Marketplace of Ideas roundtable sessions, poster presentations, an extensive exhibit hall, interactive and informative plenary sessions, the Phoenix Awards, tours of local brownfields sites, and networking opportunities for brownfield stakeholders. Online registration is available through October 10, 2003. After October 10 attendees should register on-site at the conference in Portland. For more information and on-line registration information please visit: <http://brownfields2003.org/>

JUNE ISSUE OF RENEWS IS ON THE WEB

Our June issue of Renew is on our web site at <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/archives/pubs/RR706.pdf>. We've included articles on permanganate injection as an oxidant, chemical vapor intrusion into buildings, "Marathon Rubber Bounces Back" (a Wausau redevelopment story), an overview of smart growth and brownfields, and more. To receive quarterly printed copies of "ReNews", contact Andrew Savagian at Andrew.Savagian@dnr.state.wi.us and leave your complete name and mailing address.

FINDING WTM COORDINATES ON THE GIS REGISTRY

We have added a new link to our on-line GIS Registry of Closed Remediation Sites. The new "Finding WTM Coordinates" link appears directly below our "Frequently Asked Questions" link, and is a handy reminder about how to use the registry to obtain Wisconsin Transverse Mercator (WTM) coordinates for any location in Wisconsin. Chapter NR 716.15(2)(k) requires that site investigation reports include the WTM coordinates of contaminated sites. The best way to include the coordinates in site investigation reports is to include them on the site facilities map that is required by s. NR 716.15(2)(d)6. The GIS Registry is on-line at: <http://gomapout.dnr.state.wi.us/org/at/et/geo/gwur/index.htm>

REMEDATION TECHNOLOGY APPROVALS

Sometimes RR staff are contacted by remediation technology vendors and others seeking to provide information, obtain funding or gain statewide approval for a particular technology. Wisconsin, however, does not approve or disapprove of specific remediation technologies in general. Environmental professionals are free to propose any technology that seem appropriate

for the site, while checking into other DNR approvals that may be needed (e.g. air permits, wastewater discharge permits). The RR Program project manager assigned to a contaminated site will determine whether the consultant's proposed technology seems feasible and conforms to administrative code. He or she may establish specific provisions for its use. We've posted information relating this type of request on our Technical Assistance Web page at: <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/technical/index.htm#use>. General questions about this web page, or the use of remediation technologies, may be directed to Gary Edelstein, P.E., at 608-267-7563 or at Gary.Edelstein@dnr.state.wi.us.

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